FD-302 (Rev. 4-15-64)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

WILLIAM BISHOP KING, 1776 West Lloyd Circle, Memphis, Tennessee, was interviewed at the Central Police Headquarters, and furnished the following information:

KING advised he was regularly assigned to Number 2 Fire Station, Main and Butler, Memphis, and that on April 4, 1968, he had reported to work at 7:00 a.m., and was to work until 7:00 a.m., April 5, 1968. He advised that during this work shift, two officers of the Memphis police force had been on location in the fire station conducting a surveillance of the KING party from a door to the rear of the fire station.

KING stated that he occasionally looked through holes torn in a newspaper which was being used to cover the rear door and to cover the surveilling officers during this period.

KING stated that he had been at the window observing for approximately ten minutes at the time DR. KING was shot. He advised that during this five or ten minute period that he observed, DR. KING came out of his motel room, and stood on the balcony for approximately three minutes prior to the time he was shot. He stated that an individual was standing on the balcony with DR. KING, and that DR. KING appeared to be talking to someone in the courtyard. At this time, KING heard what sounded to be a shot, and he noted DR. KING fall on the balcony. KING advised that he thought that it was a rifle shot because the sound had a zinging tone to it. Immediately DR. KING fell, confusion broke out in the motel. KING advised that he kept his eyes on the balcony, and did not actually look around the area, and that he, himself, was in a stunned state. At this time, someone else in the firehouse made the statement, "Let me see," and he, KING, moved away from the door, and this person moved to the door. KING could not identify this person, and advised that he moved back into the firehouse proper.

KING stated that at the time he was observing the motel, that a Negro officer, a CHARLES STONE, and Lieutenant LOENNEKE were also at the window. He stated that he could furnish no further

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by SAs EDWARD M. QUINN / SHIELDS W. SMITH / SWS:jms Date dictated 4/13/68

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names of individuals who might possibly have been observing the motel at the time DR. KING was shot.

KING advised that he thought a shot came from his left, and that at the time he heard the shot, that KING fell approximately the same instant; however, KING stated he could not see any buildings to the left of where he was standing nor could he see the open lot to the left of the firehouse. KING advised that he did not see anyone outside the building, other than those persons in the KING group, prior to the shot. He also advised that following the shot, he did not see any policeman or any other individual in the street before he moved away from the window.

KING advised that he could not identify any other persons whom he had seen on the balcony either prior to or following the shooting of DR. KING as he was not familiar with these individuals by name. He does recall seeing a Negro woman in the doorway of the motel room two doors down from the room of DR. KING immediately after the shooting. He also recalled that the individual standing by DR. KING at the time of the shot was crawling around on the balcony attempting to aid DR. KING. He advised that his view was restricted to either side, and that because of the manner in which the holes were placed in the newspaper, he could only see straight ahead to the motel.

KING could furnish no further information concerning individuals who might have been in or around the motel at the time of the shooting, and could furnish no information concerning any automobiles outside the fire station as he had not gone out of the station immediately following the shooting.